

Antenna and Battery Bits



Your AN/PRC-68 radio will work for you if you treat it right. Here are a couple of items that need special treatment.

Antenna Care

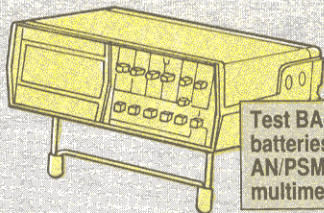
When you pick up the radio set, grab the radio, not the antenna. Grabbing the antenna cracks the control panel face. That puts your radio out of business.

If you need a carrying case for the radio, get it with NSN 8465-01-157-1157.

Battery Care

Before using your radio, give the battery a check-up. The BA-1588/U battery, NSN 6135-01-094-6536, gives about 40 hours of service at 70 degrees Fahrenheit and above.

Test the battery using the AN/PSM-45 multimeter, NSN 6625-01-139-2512. Connect a load across the battery terminals. Use a 44.2 ohm resistor, NSN 5905-01-102-3406. The BA-1588/U battery is OK if it reads no less than 12 volts.



Test BA-1588/U batteries with AN/PSM-45 multimeter

A BA-5588/U lithium battery, NSN 6135-01-088-2708, will power your radio for about 50 hours at 70 degrees Fahrenheit and above. However, there's no tester in the system to test lithium batteries.

Be sure to take out the battery when your set's idle.

If the battery's strong but your signal is weak, get your repairman to align the radio with an AN/PRM-34 test set.